

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 557  
By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Barun Aditya  
Mukherji of McMinnville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Barun Aditya Mukherji; and

WHEREAS, a longtime McMinnville resident, Dr. Barun Mukherji was an exemplary physician and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mukherji was a highly respected surgeon and noted photographer who earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues and patients alike; and

WHEREAS, Barun Mukherji was born April 2, 1939, in Calcutta, India; he attended the R.G. Kar Medical School there and attained his medical degree in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mukherji moved to Hartford, Connecticut, in 1964, and completed his internship, residency, and cardiovascular fellowship there in 1973; shortly thereafter, he opened his general and vascular surgery practice in McMinnville, where he became an icon to the community, serving his patients for more than thirty-two years; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Dr. Mukherji unveiled a revolutionary new surgical procedure called Enteryx, which is used in the treatment of acid reflux disease; he was the first rural-based physician to perform this innovative endoscopic procedure in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, through surgery, Dr. Mukherji helped innumerable Warren County residents find their way back from significant ailments to good health; and

WHEREAS, Barun Mukherji was also a noted and accomplished photographer whose work was published in a Calcutta newspaper, a medical textbook, and Warren County's *Southern Standard* newspaper; and

WHEREAS, the Station-Pure Art gallery in McMinnville proudly opened its 2005 summer exhibition with an award-winning photography show of his work. In this exhibit, entitled "A

Celebration of Life: The Humanity and Artistry," Barun Mukherji used his camera to dissect the natural world, magnifying its enormous complexity and its simple, inspiring beauty with the exacting care and delicate precision of a skilled surgeon; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the community of McMinnville, Dr. Mukherji was deeply involved in community activities, such as Relay for Life and the Heart Walk, for which he was a Red Cap honoree in 2004; he recently provided some of his exquisite photographs for a calendar, sold in a collaboration between the *Standard*, River Park Hospital, and the Chamber of Commerce to raise money for Relay for Life; and

WHEREAS, Barun Mukherji was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mukherji is survived by his devoted wife of thirty-eight years, the former Chitra Banerjee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Barun Mukherji leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional surgeon, artist, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Barun Aditya Mukherji, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and many friends of Dr. Mukherji.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.